

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - JUNE 27, 1877.

THE NEZ PERCES OUTBREAK.

THE terrible outbreak in north-western Idaho forms another chapter of horrors in the history of our Indian relations.

The immediate cause of this outbreak has not yet transpired. The Indians engaged in it are a powerful tribe, well armed and mounted. The Nez Perces (or pierced noses) belong to the Sahaptin family of Nootka-Columbians. They are a fine stalwart tribe, brave, cleanly in their habits (for Indians) and efficiently organized and provisioned. Ordinarily, they are well conducted, have strict marriage relations, pride themselves upon keeping their word, but like most of their race are addicted to gambling. They inhabit the country west of the Bitter Root Mountains and east of the Blue Mountains, in the neighborhood of Salmon and Clearwater rivers.

Trouble has been anticipated with Joseph and his band for several months by the people of north-western Idaho, as he refused to settle upon any reservation and has been very independent and insolent in his demeanor towards the whites.

Most of the difficulties with the red men have originated from violations of treaties, or some overt act on the part of the whites. When once aroused the Indian knows no distinction of blame or interests. If injured by a white, the whole generation of pale-faces become his enemies, and his vengeance is wreaked upon all that come within his reach. Judging from the general character of the Nez Perces, we think, when the primal cause of this terrible outbreak is ascertained, it will be found that the rights of the reds have been invaded and hence their terrible revenge.

It is to be hoped that a sufficient force will be pushed forward to the scene of the trouble to cope with the savages, who know no mercy when on the war path. This circumstance will make them bolder and more reckless, and as they can bring nearly 2,000 warriors into the field, the mere handful of soldiers now standing up for the protection of settlers is entirely insufficient to resist them.

The true policy with Indians is to treat them as human beings who have rights, to fill honorably all engagements with them to the letter; and if they are the aggressors, or it becomes necessary to chastise them, to do it at once, and so thoroughly and effectually that they will learn quickly to respect a force which can protect the right and avenge a wrong.

INSULTING AND IMPOLITIC.

JUDGE Hilton's assault on the Jews has stirred up something very like a hornet's nest around his ears. The exclusion of Mr. Seligman's family from the Union Hotel at Saratoga, because of race distinctions, was extremely impolitic and very insulting to a numerous, influential, and worthy portion of the community.

And Hilton's explanation does not meet the point. There are shoddy moneyocrats, vain, loud, conceited and overdressed visitors to family hotels among other races than the Hebrew; and if the intention was to protect well-bred, quiet and unostentatious guests from the vulgar presence of such persons as he refers to, the line could have been drawn more consistently and less offensively in some other manner than by a separation of races.

The sons and daughters of Judah are coming forward into the front rank in all civilized nations. They are not only prominent in the highest financial and commercial circles, but all the learned and artistic professions are graced by the talents of representatives of a race, which has suffered for centuries the cruellest of Christian (?) antipathy without reason and without mercy.

The star of Judah is rising, and the time of the triumph of the out-cast, down-trodden and scattered people is near at hand. Such proud persons as Judge Hilton may think it fine to snub the Jew; but they will gain nothing by such snobbery, either in their business interests or the estimation of any portion of the public whose opinion is of any value.

DON'T BE SWINDLED.

UTAH, in common with other portions of the west, appears to be looked upon as a fertile field for adventurers of various kinds, and among them adventurers of the speculating and trading kind, of which there are too many at large in this country. Yet there would not be so many if they did not find people so simple as to be easily deceived and swindled. In fact it does seem surprising that so many people, some of them shrewd and sensible in many things, should be so credulous and eager when "a bargain" is put speciously before them, as to jump at it with extraordinary hunger, and then find that, instead of biting something, they have been merely biting at something, and that they themselves are the really bitten parties.

We have before alluded to certain persons who go on peddling expeditions through the country, and through the Territory, selling goods at what they claim are extraordinarily cheap rates, "bargains" not to be met with every day. These peddlers may represent that they have obtained their goods cheap in various ways—that they have been smuggled, that they have been bought at bankrupt sale, or that they have been obtained in some manner at very much below their actual market value. We do not know that any of these itinerant traders claim that any of their goods were stolen, nor are we charging such a thing. But one thing may be said, that if such were the case, the purchaser would have no right to them after he had purchased them. Another thing may be said, if goods have been smuggled, the purchaser has no right to them, and, moreover, if he purchases them on the representation that they have been smuggled he renders himself liable before the law.

Another thing may be said, and that is, that there are no legitimate ways whereby these itinerant traders can obtain cheap goods that are not equally open to the regular merchants in our own community, or to anybody in the business.

A short time ago we referred to the advent of some cloth peddlers in the Territory, who since have probably been doing a thriving business in various of the settlements. We took upon us to advise the people not to encourage such characters, that nothing was gained by the community by their encouragement. Soon after, an advertisement was published in a city contemporary, in which is the following:—"We are selling articles assigned to the Anglo-American Co-operative firm, whose places of business are at Nos. 351 Broadway and 20 Walker Street, New York City." The advertisement is signed "James A. Manning."

Now we do not dispute Mr. Manning's claim that the articles he sells were assigned to some firm in New York City. Nor should we dispute it if he said he was selling articles assigned to A. T. Stewart & Co., New York, as many peddlers and merchants all over the country do sell Stewart's goods. But that would not mean that Mr. Manning or these many country merchants belonged to the firm of A. T. Stewart & Co. Not by any means.

We have taken pains to inquire into this "Anglo-American Co-operative firm," and we learn from an old business house at New York that its members can find no trace of such a firm as the one named in that city, and they conclude that there is no such firm, at least at 351 Broadway and 20 Walker Street.

From another old business house at New York, whose special business it is to ascertain the character and standing of various business firms, we learn that its members find that there is no James A. Manning in business at 351 Broadway and 20 Walker Street, in that city, but that there are importing houses at both of those places, that

these importing houses sell to peddlers, and that James A. Manning is a peddler, to whom these importing houses sell goods from time to time, as they would to any other peddler. So much for "James A. Manning" and the "Anglo-American Co-operative firm."

Leaving these points let us talk on general principles a little. People have right to go peddling through the country if they choose, and the people have the right to purchase of peddlers if they choose. We say nothing against that. But it is in the line of our journalistic duty to advise the people to be awake when they purchase of anybody, and particularly of trading strangers, and particularly again of those who profess to sell wonderfully cheap. For though in entertaining strangers one may happen to entertain angels unawares, yet one could almost warrant the conclusion that such stranger angels would not belong to the trading class with great bargains to dispose of for ready cash or notes at interest.

If such stranger peddlers come along with the names of bishops and other prominent men of the community as having purchased of said peddlers, what of that? If bishops or other prominent men are unwise in such things, is that any reason why the people should be unwise in just the same way? If bishops or other prominent men suffer themselves to be bitten in a trade, is that any reason why the people generally should run out to the peddlers and say, "Here, bite us also?" If a stranger peddler lets a bishop or other prominent man have a real bargain, sells him a large bill at low figures, does it necessarily follow that the same peddler will sell to every other customer he may meet at the same low rates? If he should do so, where would his profits be? Rather might one not reasonably conclude that the stranger peddler had sold the bishop or other prominent man a lot of goods at a low rate as a bait to catch many other fish with? If a stranger peddler could show the names of the bishop and other prominent men as purchasers, would it not be likely to be held forth as a sort of semi-endorsement of his pretensions to be selling "bargains?" Is it likely that stranger peddlers are not awake to such devices, as well as to the thousands of other "tricks of the trade?"

Is it a supposable thing that men of the trading class travel around the country, selling various articles, for the express purpose of benefitting the people among whom they travel, and who buy their goods? Not by any means. The sole object of such characters is to make money. That is all. Make money they will, if the people let them, and the people do let some of them make more money than they ought to. That is, they take more money than they render a fair equivalent for.

Our advice to the people generally is, do not be in a hurry to rush into a trade with every stranger trader who comes along, and especially those who offer such wonderful "bargains," goods at such wonderfully cheap rates, for depend upon it, such traders know what they are about, and the greatest bargain they make is that which they make for themselves.

PURCHASING WITH NOTES.

OR late years the system of purchasing various articles on credit and paying with notes, to be redeemed some months in the future, generally with interest added, has become very prevalent in this Territory, not only in the larger cities and business centres, but also in the various smaller settlements. If the aggregate existing amount of this sort of indebtedness were generally known, a large number of people would have their eyes opened to a degree that would surprise them.

It might be practically a matter of impossibility for business to be carried on if payment with note were absolutely abolished. There may be many cases wherein such a system of doing business is a great convenience and advantage, and against it in these cases we have naught to say. But the system of purchasing, either of acquaintance or stranger, friend or foe, so recklessly, and giving notes for the money, payable with or without interest some time in the future,

as has been the case of late years in many parts of this Territory, is a system of slavery and wretchedness, and in many instances of ruin. It is high time there was a check put to it. It is high time people had more sagacity, and more regard for their own prosperity, independence and happiness, than to indulge in this way of doing business to the unwisely extent that has been customary of late years. Here we speak for the public welfare and also for individual advantage. Is there any wisdom in a man pledging his crops, his labor, his stock, his house, and his land to pay a note with interest by and by for things which he might have done very well without, at least until he could have raised the ready pay for them? If people think they buy goods cheaper with note at interest than they could with the pay down, they are grandly mistaken. As a general rule, if they think it easier to pay a note with interest added in a few months than at the present time, they are also laboring under a mistake. It is hard work for ordinary working people to raise a hundred dollars to pay down for anything. It is hard to pay it now. It will be hard to pay it three months hence. It will be hard to pay a hundred dollars promised and twenty dollars interest on it twelve months hence. Don't imagine that it will be materially easier to pay then than now. In all probability it will be quite as hard in the future as at the present. Indeed, you may consider yourself fortunate if it is not harder. It is quite possible that it will be much harder, and that the property you have pledged to secure payment will be taken in satisfaction of the amount due. Then what have you gained by your shrewd little business transaction? For it must be recollected that when property is pledged as security for a debt, as a general rule there is no intention, no expectation, no thought, on the part of the pledger, to have the property actually taken for the debt, and when that is done it is considered as a great misfortune, a serious if not ruinous loss, to the pledger. The security is given to satisfy the holder of the note, not with any idea of him requiring the actual transfer to him of the property thus made liable. But what which is pledged as security may be, and often is, required to be surrendered in ultimate satisfaction of the liability, and when this is done it is almost invariably to the serious damage of the pledger, and often involving his financial ruin.

One thing that makes debts hard to pay, to say nothing of the accruing interest, is that you have used up or worn out the value received at the time the indebtedness was incurred, or you have become disgusted with your bargain, and arrived at the conclusion either that you were swindled, or that you did not prove so shrewd a trader as you imagined you were, or that Dame Fortune has been playing you with her proverbial fickleness.

If notes are given, they must be paid, with the interest agreed upon, and they often become irksome to carry and hateful to think about after you have given them. But these things should be well considered before the notes are given. If you give your note for a sum of money, you do not know when it will meet you again, nor into whose hands it will fall, nor when it may be relentlessly pressed for payment.

Notes to the amount of thousands of dollars, given by individuals in the various settlements, have been bought by banks in this city at as much as twelve per cent. discount. What does this show? It shows that the persons in whose favor these notes were given could afford to lose twelve dollars on a hundred and still make a living profit, perhaps a handsome one, on the goods they sold for the notes. It shows that the givers of the notes, even if ostensibly paying no interest on them, were actually paying twelve per cent interest on them for the time they were given to run, say three months, which is at the rate of forty-eight per cent. per annum. Is not that paying rather dear for your whistle? Is that the way to get better off? Is it the way to keep as well off as you are? Hardly. Notes and interest are debt. Debt at best, is bondage. Why put yourself voluntarily into bondage, when you might remain unfettered, free, independent? Is bondage so sweet? Are shackles so handsome, so fascinating? Are fetters so pleasant, so

desirable, so easy and delightful to wear that one must needs put them on voluntarily and without any necessity therefor whatever? Why listen to every oily-tongued, plausible-storied stranger, seeking his own profit out of your loss? Why make yourself and your hard-earned property liable to any smooth-spoken speculating stranger who may bring along what he may say are extraordinarily cheap goods? Who pays for his fine clothes, the diamond ring and breastpin, and gold watch and chain he wears? You who give him your note. If you have the money you can always buy cheap, and if you can't you can keep your money till you can. Your money is always handy, to have in the house, much better than your notes in the hands of strangers. Goods bought at credit, of strangers, are very seldom cheap; at all events, the probabilities lie the other way.

If you really need certain things, save up the money for them first, and then you will have a more lively appreciation of their value and of the value of the money they cost you, and you will not be so likely to buy that which you do not need, or which you can do very well without. Let this note-giving business rest awhile, especially so far as giving your notes to strangers is concerned. You will find you are better rather than worse off for the abstinence for a few years, and besides you will have saved yourself many headaches and heartaches, and many anxious hours.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM THURSDAYS DAILY, JUNE 21.

The Freight Question.—"Cut down wages." Is this the only remedy for the depression in the bullion business which the U. P. magnates can suggest? How much would be saved to any of the smelting enterprises in this Territory by a reduction in the scanty pay of their employees? Enormous and oppressive freights are crushing these interests with a weight more crushing than lead or the depressing influences of the lead market. We did not expect any soul or sympathy in the cold capitalists of the great railroad, but we did think they would see that encouragement of the smelting and mining interests of this Territory would be for their own particular benefit. But the sharpest men are sometimes afflicted with mental ophthalmia. Let the poor man suffer if trade is dull; that's the cry of the monopolist. Time will prove it to be very bad policy.

Since writing the above we learn that last evening the mining interests were again represented to Messrs. Gould and Dillon, and after an animated discussion a conclusion was arrived at which will result, no doubt, in much benefit to business.

Mr. Goss, Supt. of the Wasatch and Jordan Valley and Bingham Cañon railroads, started the ball with a reduction of fifty cents per ton on freights over those roads. It was then determined that a committee should be appointed to see what could be done by way of reduction on other local railroads, and Messrs. Clark and Vining of the U. P. were authorized to meet the mining men in the same spirit, and make such arrangements as would enable dealers to put their bullion on the New York market so as to make living profits.

The arrangement appears to meet with general satisfaction among the mining men of this city.

Organization of Bountiful.—A special meeting, largely attended, was held at Bountiful (North Cañon Ward) on Wednesday afternoon, June 20th, for the purpose of completing the organization of Davis County Stake of Zion, and of electing a bishop to preside over the Ward in place of Anson Call, who at the late Conference held at Farmington was appointed second counselor to President William R. Smith of that Stake.

In the stand were of the Twelve Apostles, Erastus Snow and F. D. Richards; Wm. R. Smith, President of Davis County Stake; his Counsellors, Christopher Layton and Anson Call; Bishop John Hess, of Farmington; Bishop Wm. H. Lee, of Woodruff, Rich County; Elders John Stoker, John Telford, and N. T. Porter, and others.

The meeting was addressed by Elders F. D. Richards and Erastus Snow.