

Correspondence.

SALT LAKE CITY, May 16, '71.

Mr. Editor:—I forward for your perusal a clipping from that very evangelical sheet, the *Christian Weekly*, N. Y., of April 29, 1871, on the decadence of Mormonism. The writer of the article is wonderfully well informed, and clearly predicts the downfall of the "dominant power." Three or four things are to do it: First, "unbelieving gentiles;" Second, "capitalists;" Third, "the organ of the rebels;" Fourth, "his Honor Chief Justice McKean, who so promptly discharged his juries because the Mormon church demanded the right to select jurors and of course to control their verdicts;" and, lastly, the startling fact that three of the most earnest and eloquent Methodist ministers are coming to preach in a ten capable of holding 4,000 persons, and they intend to pitch that tent in Salt Lake city, right in among the many "perverts from Methodism." The writer concludes that if Mr. Young and his "deluded followers have out-lived all the previous efforts to use up this fanaticism and impiety," that the very foundations and bulwarks will be swept away for there is to be one of that "rousing, old fashioned Methodist camp meetings." This is a clincher. It reminds me of the saying of a reverend gentleman who begged the help of another to shake hell out of a certain western city. This camp meeting is to put the quietus on this nest of deluded followers of Brigham Young. Proclamations and anathemas will be powerless. We are to have "free press," and "free preach," and "factions hierarchy" is to be subdued now and forever. Can this be possible that we are from this time to be oversloughed by the rousing camp meeting? New railroads are to be projected through the very vitals of the country. Who have projected the R. R. here? Have any of the Christians opened pocket or coffers to help build our present wards, or do much to help develop the country, save the mines? Great Caesar! Who did it, and who now would wrench it from us, jump our claims, root out the people? and all this to be done evangelically, and according to the most approved Methodist formula. Where they are the dominant power, do they let us into their houses to preach? Would they complacently rest under the imputations of fanatics, and all hell be invited to do the good work. According to the Editor of the *Christian Weekly*, of April 29th, all hail the month of June. ITEM.

BEAR RIVER CITY.—N. P. Rasmussen, writing from Bear River City, on the 10th inst., says:

"This place is situated in the mountains east of Malad Valley on the way between there and Cache. It was settled five years ago, and since then the residents have had a great deal of labor to perform in getting the water on their lands, fencing, building, &c. The grasshoppers have, each returning season, taken a large proportion of our crops, but this has not discouraged us or caused us to pull up stakes and leave. We experienced heavy losses last year on account of the wetness of the Spring and our inability to drain the water from our land, causing the saleratus to rise, and which destroyed the greater portion of our fall grain. Unfortunately, also, about the time when it was necessary to irrigate our dam across the Malad River broke away and we were unable to get the benefit of water to our crops when it was really needed. A new dam has been built and a new canal is nearly completed which, I think, speaks well for the energy of the people. A large amount of grain has been put in this season and most of the wheat looks well at present.

There is a good Sunday school in which much interest is manifested by all. We have also a day school in operation. We have taken steps towards organizing an association for the importation and improvement of stock, &c. Our Female Relief Society has been in existence for two years and is doing well. The health of the people of this settlement is as good as could be desired."

At Scipio, Millard County, May 3rd, 1871, of tumor in the breast, LARS PETER ESKE-LUND, aged 53 years and 4 months.

Deceased was a native of Sanda, Gothland, Sweden; embraced the Gospel in May, 1862; emigrated to Utah in 1863, in Capt. John Young's train. He leaves a wife and a large family of children to mourn his loss. He was loved and respected by all who knew him. He was the first to receive the Gospel and to gather with the Saints from that region of his native country. He died as he lived, a firm and true Latter-day Saint, ever ready and willing to lend a helping hand to the cause of the Kingdom of God.—Com.

Skandinavien Sijerne, please copy.

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

FOREIGN.

PARIS, 16.—There was a tremendous scene at the fall of the Column Vendome. The fall was announced for two o'clock, and all the balconies in the Place Vendome were thronged with ladies. The Rues de la Paix and Castiglione were crowded. Three bands of music arrived while the workmen were engaged in chopping the base of the column. M. Abodie next arrived and inspected the windlass. The excitement was intense. Rochefort next appeared and the people crowded around him, giving him loud cheers. Soon all the arrangements were completed and bugles were sounded as if the column, like the walls of Jericho, was to fall from a blast. The cable was stretched and tightened but the column stood firm. The windlass broke and a pulley flew into the air and then descended, striking a sailor, and wounding him. After this accident Abodie declared that he needed two hours in which to repair the tackle. It was given out that the column would not fall before seven o'clock and a general expression of disapprobation went through the crowd. Abodie was accused of complicity with the Versailles and threatened with the guillotine. A two minutes past five the cable was again stretched for the work of demolition and suddenly, to the surprise of the spectators, the vast column moved and swayed and next swept magnificently down, bursting into fragments as it struck the earth. It fell lengthwise in the Rue de la Paix exactly on the manure cushion prepared for it, splitting with a dull heavy lumbering sound, while a thick cloud of dust and crushed and powdered masonry rose in the air. The crowd, as soon as the column fell, gave tremendous shouts of vive la Commune, and the bands played the Marseillaise Hymn. When the dust cleared away there lay the glorious column shattered to pieces; its bronze and masonry in two masses together in the middle, and the statue of the Emperor several feet from one end of the column, with the head knocked off. The crowd rushed forward to collect fragments as relics and the guards were unable to resist the rush. Next, orators commenced their speeches, indulging in all sorts of extravagant language. The statue of the Emperor was treated as if it were the Emperor himself. The national guards spat in its face and struck it with their rifles. After the ceremonies were concluded the crowd dispersed and the soldiers moved off, waving their red flag and giving expression to their joy by continual shouting.

PARIS, 17.—This afternoon the Auteuil and Versailles gates of Paris were destroyed by the bombardment, and the neighboring bastions are silent and under a terrific fire. Issy is now in the hands of the Versailles troops.

It is believed the Versailles are undermining the walls near the Muette gate. Dissensions continue among the committees of the Commune.

VERSAILLES, 17.—A terrific explosion occurred this evening in the eastern portion of Paris in the direction of the Avenue Du Trocadero. Its effects are plainly noted here. It is believed the powder magazine near the inner fortifications was reached by the shells from the Versailles' batteries at Neuilly.

PARIS, Sunday evening.—Yesterday Dombrowski issued orders that all officers refusing to obey the commands of their superiors should be shot. He received five thousand men this a.m., at Neuilly. After breakfast he rode to the front of Porte Maillot and while sitting on his horse, the Versailles soldiers fired their rifles and two shells at the General, without effect. Dombrowski immediately took off his hat and bowed to them all. The Communist soldiers who saw it cheered lustily.

Yesterday a grand procession of women marched through the Streets of the city, headed by buglers, drummers and flags, to the Hotel de Ville, where they demanded arms. Yesterday a proclamation was issued for the organization of battalions of women immediately for the purpose of stimulating the courage of the men. It has been ordered that all cowardly males shall be led to prison by women. The women battalions are to march against the Versailles troops.

The bombardment is exceedingly violent and shells are falling within the city in large numbers. A heavy attack from the Versailles troops is expected. It is stated that seven men and a number of young women bearing an ambulance with the red cross, were re-

fused quarter by the sixth regiment of the line, who shot five of their number.

The committee on war has been re-placed in consequence of its differences with the central committee. The batteries at Montretout are firing heavily on Paris. General Rossel is reported as being in Belgium on the 6th.

The government gunboats have arrived at Sevres. The troops in the Bois de Boulogne are advancing. An entry into the city is imminent.

A dispatch, dated Berlin 14th, evening, says: Twenty-eight archbishops and bishops of the Catholic church have addressed a petition to the Emperor of Austria, on the Roman question. In the petition the Emperor is requested to inform the King of Italy that the independence of the Pope is necessary to the Catholic church, and to demand that Rome and a suitable territory be immediately returned to the Pope. The petitioners also say that it is the duty of all other Catholic powers, and of Protestant powers also, to make the demand.

PARIS, 15.—M. Beslay, who has been called the father of the Commune, retires from a membership of that body because the residence of M. Thiers has been despoiled.

All persons having sulphur or phosphorus in their possession are required to report to the Commune.

M. Schoelcher has been released from custody.

Gen. La Crellia, is now in command at Petit Vanvres. The corps he commands will henceforth command the arrondissement, and be responsible for its defense. Torpedoes have been ordered to all exposed points.

VERSAILLES, 15.—Sixty cannon were found in Fort Vanvres on its occupation by the Versailles forces. The battery at Montretout continues to cannonade the insurgent works, and is both demolishing the enclosures of Paris and protecting the approaches of the government troops, otherwise there is no news of interest.

PARIS, 15.—The Versailles forces are under the walls of Paris exchanging shots with the insurgents, who line the ramparts from Porte de La Muette and in the arrondissement of Passy to Porte de Issy. The Parisians have been expelled from the trenches between forts Vanvres and Issy. A battery is erecting in the Garden of the Tuilleries, to pour flank fire into the Champs Elysees.

There is undoubted evidence that a wide spread conspiracy exists in Paris for the overthrow of the Commune.

The Gardens of Luxembourg are closed to the public and are occupied by a military force, in anticipation of a rising on the part of the populace.

VERSAILLES, 16.—Cannonading continues unimportantly. The Assembly appoints a commission to examine the treaty. It is expected that it will be severely criticised.

LONDON, 16.—A dispatch from St. Denis says, to-day the divisions of the Commune will be terminated by a dissolution of the central committee, or the absorption of that on public safety with the central. Over forty mechanics are called to work on the defenses. A new military commission has been appointed. Delescluse and the central committee fraternize. Henri is appointed chief of the war ministry; and Matthew Commander between Point Jour and Wagram.

LONDON, 6 a.m., 16th.—The latest dispatches from Paris state that the Commune reports the Versailles repulsed at Neuilly. General Mason, Chief of Staff, has been arrested.

La Liberte says the Government troops have entered Paris through the trenches at Port Maillot and at Auteuil. The entry of the troops at the Point du Jour is imminent.

A circular by Grouset invites the provinces to join the Commune.

Burdett Coutts accepts a peerage. The Germans are concentrating towards Paris.

The headquarters of the Prince of Saxony are transferred to Margency. The chief commands of the guards are removed to Montmorency.

The fall of Montrouge is imminent. The western and south-western parts of Paris are uninhabitable. There is great loss of property and life.

PARIS, 16.—The Communists made a sortie last night, meeting the Versailles strongly posted in the Bois de Boulogne, but were forced to retreat with heavy loss. The Versailles have constructed a bridge across the Seine, at Palaneaux and have brought over a great mass of artillery.

The *Ori du Peuple* states that chemical preparations are ready to completely annihilate the Versailles when they assault the ramparts.

LONDON.—In the Commons, this morning, O'Connor, member from Ros-

common, submitted a motion that it is expedient to continue in force the act for the preservation of peace in Ireland, after the date originally fixed as limitation. Hander, member for Oxford University, and Fortescue, member for Lowth, in consideration of continual lawlessness in Ireland, opposed the motion. John Martin, member for Meath, spoke in denunciation of English tyranny in Ireland, and claimed the right of self government for the people of Ireland.

In the House of Lords a bill making drafts and notes maturing on holidays and Sunday payable on the following day, was read twice.

LONDON, 17.—The Parisians hold Montrouge. Vanvres is unoccupied.

There has been a cold snow storm in Scotland and the north of England. It is thought the crops are hurt.

Cluseret advises barricades in the Place Etoile, Place Rome, and Place Eglan, with a second line of defensive works from the Passy gate and Grenelle bridge, and a third line from Porte Concord to the Sevres gate.

The *Standard's* special says the Versailles will carry the city to-night. The Communists are fleeing.

An American bark sunk a French fisherman in the Channel. Twelve of the latter's crew are lost.

LONDON, 17.—The *Siecle*, *National Avenir*, *Mational Journal of Paris*, *Courier* and *Discussion* have been suppressed.

The *Daily News's* special says an important minority of the Commune, protest against the existing committee of safety.

The *Standard* special says it is reported Montrouge is taken. The Republicans presented to the Assembly, on Wednesday, a motion, appointing Thiers President for two years. Disturbance is expected.

PARIS.—The Commune announces the repulse of several attacks of the Versailles forces on Monday night at Chatillon, Maukin, Picci and Loudin Sacquet. There was a vigorous engagement in the evening extending from Porte Dauphine to the Maillet Gate, in which the Versailles troops were repulsed with great loss. The Commune holds a well armed reserve of 20,000 men in reserve, for a case of emergency. Immense crowds gathered to-day in the vicinity to witness the expected fall of the column in the place Vendome. Great efforts have been made by the Communists engineers to tear the column from its base, but it has withstood their utmost exertions. The engineers have not, however, given up hope of success, and are renewing attempts. The members of the Commune and a battalion of national guards are on the ground.

The Versailles Assembly, to-day, voted an urgency motion for rebuilding a residence for Thiers in Paris, at the public expense. A motion declaring the republic permanent was referred to a committee. Prayers are ordered in all the churches for the cessation of the civil war. Grevy was re-elected President of the Assembly.

VERSAILLES, 17.—The parallels are a hundred metres from the ramparts. The insurgents' fire greatly disturbs the troops. As many as thirty were killed in one night.

PARIS, 17.—The Place Vendome, three miles square, is henceforth known as the Place International. The Safety Committee and associates, civil commissioners and the generals have agreed to prevent a dictatorship by Dombrowski.

Trains leaving Paris are examined. Petroleum owners are ordered to report to the Commune.

PARIS, Tuesday eve.—The column in the Place Vendome was levelled at 6 o'clock this evening. It fell lengthwise into the Rue de la Paix.

MADRID, 16.—Moret has presented the budget, which is favorably received. Louis Blanc goes to America after the Assembly closes.

LONDON, 17.—In the House of Commons, this evening, a bill permitting, but putting certain restrictions upon, the sale of liquors, was discussed at length. Petitions both for and against the measure were presented, and arguments made on both sides of the question. The opponents of the bill proved the stronger party, and it was lost by 82 majority.

Later dispatches from Paris state that the federalists occupying the village of Malakoff have been cut off from communication with their main forces, and are in danger of capture. The insurgent troops have retired from Petit Vanvres and Montrouge, to the city. Ladders, to be used in scaling the ramparts of Paris, have reached the outposts. The government troops are in the Bois de Boulogne.