

feeling towards Utah was one of marked cordiality.

Early in December Mr. Cummings spent some days in St. Louis, where he found a similar sentiment among the many business men whom he met. The financial situation was much better there. Proceeding eastward via Columbus, Cincinnati and Pittsburg, Mr. Cummings spent some weeks in and near Philadelphia, and a similar period each in New York and Boston. He also traveled much in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and New York state.

He was partly engaged in business matters, but much of the time of his absence was spent in collecting genealogical records, and he states that in this latter work he was successful beyond his expectations. He compiled a number of genealogies, embracing from 200 to 2,000 names each, and established important connections in several others which he had had in hand for years, but whose obstacles had long baffled him.

His genealogical work took him into Canada, and he visited Montreal and Kingston in pursuit of it, obtaining valuable information concerning the systems of records kept in that country. He left Kingston on the 20th inst. and came home by way of Buffalo, Chicago and Denver, making brief stops in each of those cities.

The commercial pursuits in which Mr. Cummings was engaged brought him in contact with many business men who were more or less free in discussing Utah affairs, while his genealogical work threw him in company with scores of refined and wealthy people, and such officials as have the custody of public records, with whom he conversed, often with great freedom, about the people of Utah, their religion, etc.

The feeling shown was, in nearly every instance, in marked contrast with the prejudice that formerly existed towards the majority class in this State. Mr. Cummings was astonished, he says, at the number of people whom he met who had visited this city, and they invariably spoke highly of what they saw here.

Eastern financial circles have been much disturbed over the Venezuelan and Cuban questions, but even more over the issue now most prominent in American politics, silver; and it is freely predicted that financial confidence and prosperity will not come to the United States until after the presidential election.

IDAHO WEATHER BULLETIN.

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho, April 28.—The weather during the early part of the week ending Monday, April 27, was cool and cloudy, with moderate showers in all sections of the state; fair and warmer weather prevailed during the latter part of the week, but the nights were unusually cold and frosty, with temperature generally below the freezing point. Reports as to the effect of recent frosts are conflicting, but it is believed that serious damage has resulted in only a few cases.

The condition of the soil remains practically the same as last week, being as a rule in excellent condition for working; in portions of the central

section it is still too wet for working owing to the recent presence of snow. There is a large amount of snow in the mountains, which insures a good supply of water for irrigating purposes; cool weather has prevented rapid melting, and, as a result, streams are rising very slowly.

Plowing and seeding, which were interrupted by recent unfavorable weather, have been resumed and are now well under way and nearing completion in some instances, but in a few localities very little has been done on account of wet soil; many farmers are now turning their attention to the planting of vegetables.

Winter wheat has improved slightly during the week, and the spring sown is coming up and growing nicely, though a few reports that it has been slightly affected by frost; early planted garden truck, where above the ground, appears to be in good condition; meadow and range grasses have made some progress and are doing fairly well; fruit has advanced very slowly.

D. P. MCCALLUM,
Section Director.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

HAVANA, April 28.—[Copyrighted by Associated Press.]—An explosion, believed to be by dynamite or some other high explosive, occurred in the palace of the governor general at 11:30 this morning while a correspondent of the Associated Press was waiting in the ante-room. The detonation was a sharp noise breaking the glass and scattering plaster to all sides. Part of the roof fell in. The explosion occurred in a closet in the basement which was converted into a heap of rubbish. The wall was torn and great stones fell. A printer belonging to the captain general's office was wounded. There was the greatest excitement. The explosion is attributed to the insurgents.

LONDON, April 28.—The secretary of state for the colonies, Joseph Chamberlain, announced in the House of Commons today that five leaders of the reform committee of Johannesburg (J. H. Hammond, Francis Rhoder, George Farrar, Lionel Phillips and Charles Leonard) have been condemned to death. Mr. Chamberlain added that upon hearing the news he cabled to the governor of Cape Colony, Sir Hercules Robinson, to communicate the following to President Kruger:

"The government has just learned that the sentence of death has been passed upon the five leaders of the reform committee. They can feel no doubt that your honor will commute the sentence, and have assured Parliament of their conviction that this is your honor's intention."

John Hays Hammond, one of the men condemned to death, is an American.

CARTHAGE, Mo., April 29.—The local ministerial alliance has published a card, urging Christian people to stay away from the lecture to be given here Thursday night by Col. Robert G. Ingersoll. Ten days ago the Light Guard band announced that it had engaged the lecturer to address them, but not on a religious subject. The ministers protested and ever since then

have endeavored to break up the lecture.

NEW YORK, April 29.—Workmen have begun to remove the stone in front of the Washington statue on the steps of the sub-treasury. The stone will be taken up and placed in the wall of the rotunda of the sub-treasury, where it will be out of danger of the elements. It is the same stone Washington stood on when he took the oath of office on becoming the first President of the United States.

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., April 29.—The steamer Al Ki from Alaska had for passengers two sealers who tell a story of privation and suffering. They are Gus Peterson, a German, and a half breed called Siwash Jimmie. They left Victoria January 23rd in a sealing schooner, City of San Diego. On the fourth of April the two men, while out hunting seals, were lost in a blinding snowstorm and driven before the wind all night in a small canoe. When daylight came the schooner was not in sight and the two men were in a small canoe out of sight of land with nothing to eat but frozen raw seal meat. For six days and nights they drifted until they finally went on the Alaskan beach 100 miles west of Sitka, where, with hands and feet frozen stiff they were picked up by Indians who cared for them until they were able to be taken to Sitka from which place they came here on the Al Ki.

NEW YORK, April 29.—A dispatch to the Herald from Cairo, Egypt, says:

It is stated here that Firkal, fifteen miles south of Atashen, may at any moment be occupied as a further advance post. A rumor is circulated that the Sirdar Kitchener may resign, owing to his action on being restricted.

BOSTON, Mass., April 29.—The annual meeting of stockholders of the Union Pacific railway was held today. The old directors were re-elected.

Alex Miller, secretary and assistant comptroller, was chosen to succeed E. Endicott Peabody and George Q. Cannon, of Salt Lake City, was elected in place of James Sharp, as representative of the Salt Lake interests.

DENVER, April 29.—A special to the Times from Cripple Creek says:

The Portland hotel is burning and another conflagration is feared. The roof of the hotel fell in and the fire jumped across the street. The fire department is blowing up the buildings with dynamite to prevent a conflagration.

TEHERAN, Persia, May 1.—While the shah was entering the inner court of the shrine of Shah Abdul Azim, six miles south of this city, this afternoon, he was shot.

Later—it was officially announced that the shah is dead. The assassin fired point blank at his heart at two o'clock this afternoon.

Immediately after the Shah was shot he was carried to his carriage and conveyed to the palace.

The assassin, who was promptly arrested, is said to be Sayyid From Corman from the province of that name. It is believed the murderer has accomplices.

Stewart Richmond celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his birth last Sunday at his home near Armona, Cal., by giving a dinner to several whose birthdays fell on the same day.