

among the republicans, which the majority are anxious to avoid. It is believed another caucus will be held next Monday and that the first executive session will be held next Tuesday. It has been decided that the first executive business will be the consideration of the Chinese treaties, in order that they may be ratified and accepted on time. The caucus committee will endeavor to retain entire control of the executive work, so that the republicans can resume their fight on the election of Senate officers whenever they deem it expedient. Senators Rollins and Hill, of Colorado, are named as two of the caucus committees, but the others are not yet decided upon. Hoar is urged by some, but the fact that his colleague as chairman will prevent his going on the committee. The republican committee unanimously believe in sustaining Mahone, and the only matter that is likely to cause any division among them is the Robertson case, as Conkling holds that his duty to his party prompts him to use any advantage he may get to defeat Robertson. There is a rumor that the caucus committee will try to bring about a compromise on Robertson, and will urge the President to take some steps of that kind, but this would not be done by order of the caucus. Some republican senators advise this course, and if done it will be individual and not party action. Some republicans hold that in view of the situation, this cause of internal strife should be removed.

Davis, of West Virginia, is going to make a speech in the Senate next week in relation to the debt between Old Virginia and West Virginia.

Butler attacked Frye pretty severely to-day. Frye is absent and fails to reply, which gives rise to speculation that Hales speech may, like that of Frye, be made use of to influence votes against Robertson.

Major Frank Digress, of the City of Mexico, arrived to-day. He left Mexico about nine days ago. He says that the story about Grant coming to conquer the country was talked of there before he arrived, but that it made no impression at all upon the people, as they knew it was a canard started by foreigners who are interested in creating prejudice against Americans. He declared that the Mexicans were just as glad to see Grant as the first time he came. They gave no public reception for two reasons: First, they cannot afford to be giving big receptions so often; in the second place Grant insisted that he was coming simply on business as a private citizen, and declined to allow a parade or the expenditure of money on his account. There is not the slightest feeling of hostility towards the United States, Major Digress says, neither among the common people, nor among the leading citizens. Prest. Diaz continues to be most popular in Mexico, and he is deeply interested in the promotion of commercial relations with this country. The fact that the troops have been reinforced along the frontier was because they thought that possibly when railroad building began, lawless characters would come into the country, and that the presence of the military would have a restraining influence upon them. It was not because the Mexican government anticipated any trouble with the United States, or were hostile to American enterprise. Major Digress declares that the public prejudice against Americans has broken down within the last two years as if by magic. His statements may be relied upon, as he is a gentleman well known as an officer of artillery in Logan's division in the late war, and has been in business in Mexico, selling arms and machinery for the past 15 years.

There is great fluttering among the stalwarts here over the unmistakable evidence that goes to show that Dorsey, the hero of the Astor Seligman-Morton dinner at Delmonico's, and Gorham, for whom Conkling, Cameron and Mahone have been blocking the business of the Senate, will be drawn into the vortex of the Brady scandal.

Some friends of Brady and others accused of connection with the Star route scandal declare to-day that the accused are going to fight, that Brady will show he sent money to carry Indiana for Garfield last year at the latter's request, and that the money was raised from mail contractors, and the President knew it, also that articles attacking the President in connection with his service in the House on appropriation bills, will be published. Whether Brady authorized this declaration of war is not

known, but it is being made by some of his friends.

NEW YORK, 28.—A correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, usually well informed, says, to-day, the real lion in the way to putting an end to the deadlock in the Senate, it is now ascertained beyond peradventure, is not Conkling nor the President, but Robertson himself. Prominent republicans who are said to have been commissioned to go to Albany to persuade him, for the sake of republican harmony, to withdraw as nominee for the New York collectorship, report that they have been unable to win him over to that view of his duty, but that on the contrary he declares his determination to "stick," no matter who may be pleased or displeased. The gentlemen to whom this mission was entrusted are not backward in having it understood that they were acting by high authority in order to carry out a compromise, and there is reason to believe that the non success of their undertaking has been telegraphed to Washington. Robertson, it is further understood, expressed himself with considerable feeling on the occasion and gave his visitors to understand plainly that he did not intend to be the cat's paw of anybody. He also reminded them that he had not sought the office; the office had sought him, and having consented to accept it, he intended to abide the action of the Senate, be it favorable or otherwise. I cannot ascertain that the presence in the city just now of Blaine, Governor Cornell and other distinguished republicans, has had anything to do directly with the matter, but the custom house where they usually have wonderfully accurate knowledge of what, in cases of this kind, is going on behind the scenes, the impression is that it was precisely that which brought them here. They supplement that impression, moreover, with impressions that there is hardly a foreign mission in the gift of the President which is not at the service of the judge if he will give up the collectorship.

The Herald says of the meeting of the World's Fair commission: The substance of the new plan is to make certain changes in the commission and bring some very wealthy capitalists into intimate working relations with the enterprise, and have the chosen representatives of such capitalists take personal charge of the enterprise and push it night and day until the books are balanced in 1883. One of the radical features of the new departure will be to give the press no news until its success has been demonstrated, and to give intelligence of no future plans before they shall be fully matured. The rooms of the commission were rented anew for another month.

The Herald's London special says: The steamer Rhine will bring you in a few days two members of an expedition en route for Behring's Sea, the brothers Dr. Arthur and Dr. Aurel Krause, hitherto professors of natural science at a Berlin college. They have been engaged by the Geographical Society of Bremen for the mission. They will go to New York and Washington, and thence to San Francisco, whence they will start for their destination. The details of the expedition are still dependent upon the different circumstances, principally on the charge of finding a suitable vessel from San Francisco. Their chief object will be a thorough exploration of the Ichukteche Peninsula on the Siberian side of Behring Straits, where Nordenskjold in the Vega, passed the winter of 1878-9, then they will make a prolonged stay on the coasts and visit the different Islands of Behring's Sea. They will make comprehensive ethnological, geological and botanical studies, and will prepare collections in these regions and in Alaska. The travelers are thoroughly prepared, and have equipped themselves in every respect for this journey, which is to be about a year's duration. They have been furnished with instructions from the leading authorities and Professor Nordenskjold has presented them with a complete dictionary of the Ichukteche language. They have also been supplied with letters from the foreign office, signed by Prince Bismarck to the German ambassadors at Washington and the consuls in New York and San Francisco, and it is to be hoped that perhaps the American government may grant them a passage on the Mary and Helen or the Corwin, when sailing this summer for Behring Straits. The entire cost of the expedition, 15,000 marks, will be paid by the Bremen Geographical Society.

CHICAGO, 28.—The following press account from Elgin is the most reliable record and gives the particulars of the frightful calamity that occurred this morning, with the swamping of the ferry boat used in crossing the river at Chicago Street. It is estimated that thirty passengers were upon the boat, and only fourteen were saved. The boat was crossing the river, from the west side and when nearly two-thirds over began to flood with water. The passengers in consternation, immediately flocked to the dry part of the boat, clinging to the railing, which, giving way, precipitated them into the river. As the water poured into the boat it sank below the surface, leaving thirty living souls battling for life in the angry current. The water is fully fifteen feet deep and the current six miles an hour or more. The council ordered the boat as soon as the bridge fell, and it is a matter of surprise that the accident did not occur sooner. It is only eleven by eighteen feet, and does not stand more than six inches above the water. Much indignation is felt against both the council and the builders of the boat. So far as ascertained, the following are among the saved: W. H. Poulton, Dr. Vankerhing, Robt. Egan, Patrick Sullivan, John Collins, John Kirkpatrick, Wm. Long, Peter Johnson, L. Olsen, A. Harris, L. D. Eastman, two little girls, Emma Barrington and Bertie Rothen and a farmer unknown. These were reached by boats and boards. The missing and known to be on the boat were: Thomas Murphy, Andrew Dawson, John Corbin, Guy Carlisle, Leo Taylor, Wm. Colville, Ellen Forster, and a little girl. Frances Creighton and J. L. Lockwood, of Rockford, guests at the Waverly House, are missing, and believed lost. The river is being dragged, but none of the bodies are found. A low estimate of the loss of life is twelve to fifteen.

SANTA FE, N.M., 28.—Excitement prevails here over the rumor that Chief Justice L. Bradford Prince is to be removed. Ex-senator S. W. Dorsey is at the bottom of the affair. By connivance with J. C. Davis, register of the land office, Dorsey has managed to buy up some 12,000 acres of the best land and water privileges in the eastern end of Colfax Co. This end has been passed by pushing through the register's office here, pre-emption and homestead entries of men not entitled to the same, and upon obtaining patents, buying them up. The people in that section of territory are seeking redress and it is believed the matter will come up before Judge Prince at the term of the United States Court in July. Prince would have the entire matter thoroughly ventilated and the swindlers exposed. He is thoroughly acceptable to the people and bar of this district.

LOUISVILLE, 28.—Heavy rain, hail and lightning prevailed in this city at 1 o'clock. Four boys and a horse dragging a wagon in which they were riding, were killed in the east end by lightning. This accident occurred at Twenty-sixth and Market. The boys were playing base ball. Their ages ranged from 12 to 14. The boys were pupils of the school, and the disaster happened during recess. Their names are Lee Fleck, Joe Shultz, Will Tayal and Harry Soety. The three last named died a few minutes after being taken to their homes in the neighborhood. The latter was burned beyond recognition.

KANSAS CITY, 27.—The damage to property, to-day, by high water has been great, and as both the Missouri and Kansas rivers are still rising, there is much alarm among the owners of property on what is called the bottoms, where the packing houses, ice houses, stock yards and many wholesale houses are located. One hundred families have been driven from their homes already, and 1,000 people to-night are in great danger of a similar fate, their houses being four feet below the level of the river, with a frail embankment alone to protect them. The large ice houses of S. Evans and Oburs, meat packers, was undermined to-day, and 25,000 tons of ice were lost. The ice house of Fowler Bros., packing house, containing 150,000 tons is in great danger. Sale's ice houses have both succumbed to the flood, destroying about \$15,000 worth of property. A large force of workmen have been employed by the city, and are throwing up a dyke in the bottoms to prevent further damage, if possible. Fowler's boarding houses are in a perplexing situation, the cellars being full, and at the lower house the water is nearly up to the first floor.

Atchison, 27.—Contrary to expectations the river has continued to rise steadily during the past 24 hours and is now 20 feet 4 inches above low water mark. Old residents say it is at least 20 inches above the level of the great flood of 1844. The river covers all the bottom lands in Missouri opposite the city portion of East Atchison.

A meeting was held this afternoon to raise funds for the flooded sufferers. It is reported that the extensive burr oak bottoms in Doniphan County have been submerged and hundreds of settlers driven from their homes.

Omaha, 27.—The river has fallen about a foot a day. Willow Springs Distillery and part of the Union Pacific Railway shops intend starting up in the morning. Overland railway travel from the west was heavy to-day, passengers coming through direct instead of branching off via Kansas City.

JUAB STAKE CONFERENCE.

On Friday April 15th, 1881, the Juab Stake Conference commenced. At 10 a. m. the Primaries assembled at the Nephi Tabernacle. The Nephi North and South Wards were fully represented. The Levan and Mona partially. The children sang very sweetly.

After prayer the presidents of the various wards reported the condition of their ward primaries which was very satisfactory.

A prepared programme demonstrated the improvement in the children. The secretaries read their own reports. The Primary authorities were presented by Prest. Geo. Teasdale, both of the Stake and Wards which were fully sustained. Altogether it was a very enjoyable time.

In the afternoon our good sisters held their quarterly conference, the tabernacle choir being in attendance under the able leadership of Prof. J. B. Darton.

After opening services very interesting reports and remarks were made showing that our sisters take great interest in the latter-day work. The relief authorities were sustained for the Stake and Wards.

In the evening the quarterly Priesthood meeting was held. Reports from the various quorums received, good instructions given, a profitable time.

On Saturday morning at 10 a. m., there was a very good attendance of the people. After opening services the Bishops reported their wards and themselves in the enjoyment of the spirit of the gospel.

Elder Edward Kay, recently returned from a mission to England, greatly interested us in a graphic account of his labors and mission, closing with an earnest testimony.

At 2 p. m., after devotional services President Joel Grover read the statistical report.

Elder John Kinkie, Presidents Joel Grover and K. H. Brown occupied the afternoon preaching the gospel and exhorting to faithfulness and good works.

President Teasdale made a few closing remarks on the philosophy of the Word of Wisdom.

In the evening there was a crowded attendance. The Young Men's and Ladies' Mutual Improvement held their conference.

Very satisfactory reports were given by the superintendents of Stake and Wards.

President Howard Spencer of Kanab, and Elder G. Hogan, of Orderville, made some very encouraging remarks, and the Stake and Ward authorities of the Y. M. and Y. L. M. I. A. were presented and sustained.

On Sunday morning at 10, the Sabbath schools held their conference. The house was crowded. It was a lovely sight to behold the children with their bright, joyous countenances assembled together in conference. The teachers occupied the end of the forms. The superintendents of the various schools occupied the stand. The Sabbath school choir, under the guidance of our worthy friend, Charles Morris, charmed us with their sweet music. Reports were given by the County and Ward superintendents showing a warm interest being taken by earnest men and women in this laudable work.

Superintendent Teasdale was delighted to meet President George Q. Cannon at the depot and escort him to the meeting. He arrived as the choir were singing one of their most harmonious hymns, and, when introduced to them, addressed them in a most affectionate and fatherly manner. It was a time long to be remembered.

At 2 p. m. there was not room for the congregation in the Tabernacle, the doors of the vestry were thrown open and it was soon filled. After the usual exercises, Bishop Hunter's titling agent reported. Showed an increase of receipts for the past year of \$1,800. The financial report was given.

President George Q. Cannon occupied the rest of the time in a very powerful and interesting manner.

It was resolved to continue our Conference until Monday noon.

In the evening President Cannon addressed the young people. The meeting was under the auspices of the Y. M. and Y. L. M. I. Associations, Stake Superintendent Thos. Crawley presiding. The Sabbath school choir was in attendance, the house was again crowded, and all were deeply interested.

Monday morning, at 9 o'clock, President Cannon, upon invitation, met with the presiding authorities of the Stake, at which meeting much valuable instruction was imparted.

Elder Thomas Crawley was ordained to the High Priesthood.

At 10.30 a. m. Conference continued. After devotional exercises, the Church and Stake authorities were presented and sustained.

Presidents George Q. Cannon and George Teasdale occupied the time in general instructions and exhortations.

W. A. C. BRYAN, Clerk.
per T.

Correspondence.

MILLVILLE, Cache County, Utah, April 25, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

At the April Conference of 1880, I was called on a mission to the Southern States. Arriving at St. Louis, where I met President Morgan, I was assigned to labor in the Virginia Conference, in which State I arrived the 10th of last May, when I commenced my labors as a missionary with Elder H. G. Boyle, in whose company I traveled and labored till released the 24th of last month to return home. We have traveled and labored in Tazewell, Bland and Smyth counties of Virginia, making one trip in the time to North Carolina, and although missionary work was a new role for me, I do not begrudge the time thus spent. I do not profess to be a preacher, or to have preached a great deal (only fireside preaching), nor to having baptized very many, yet I realize that I have done some good both for myself and others, making many friends and removing much prejudice.

In returning to my home, I feel that I have been greatly benefited by my mission. The great contrast between the sectarian world and the Latter-day Saints has been made so apparent, that I feel more satisfied with our people and our religion than ever before. During my travels in Virginia, I can truly say I was everywhere kindly treated, and leave many friends there that I can never forget.

Yours in the Gospel of Christ,
GEO. O. PITKIN.

PAROWAN, April 25, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

We regret having to inform our readers that our community has been visited by that terrible disease, diphtheria, of late, causing a feeling of serious anxiety. It made its appearance in the family of Brother H. J. Mortensen, attacking all his children, seven, almost simultaneously, making considerable headway before it was known to be diphtheria, and has taken away two of their number, a little son in his fourth year, and a amiable daughter in her fourteenth year, esteemed by all her associates as a pure and genial companion. She was very anxious to live, and suffered much before she succumbed to the foul destroyer. The rest of the children are now doing well, although they have passed through a severe ordeal.

Quarantine measures were adopted, but few therefore visited the family, which makes the burden heavy, and the affliction sore indeed; yet the kindest expressions of sympathy were heard from every one. It also appeared in another family, but in a milder form, and we feel and trust that the worst is over.

The general health is good; the weather this spring, so far, has been unusually fine; orchards, gardens and fields promise well, and peace and good will prevail in our midst.

Respectfully,
M. RICHARDS, JR.