



ALBERT CARRINGTON.....EDITOR.

Wednesday,.....Dec. 7, 1864.

TAKE SPECIAL NOTICE.

The public are hereby again notified that payments will not receive credit at the DESERT NEWS OFFICE, except they are made to said office, or upon its printed orders, or to one of its agents, or to some person actually authorized to give printed receipts in its name.

THE DESERET NEWS.

Justice to the News requires calling attention to a few points that might otherwise escape fair consideration.

To accommodate advertisers in a paper of so large and general a circulation and interest as has the NEWS, advertisements were admitted until they encroached too much upon the reading matter. To obviate this, and still accommodate all, as far as possible, an eight-column supplement was issued without extra charge. This supplement, we are pleased to hear, has been very favorably received, but the NEWS' columns were still too few to meet all requirements. For this reason a sixteen-column supplement is issued with this number, thus increasing the size of the NEWS by one half, at a large extra expense for paper, composition, press work, etc., but without extra charge to subscribers.

This course is, as far as we know, without parallel among newspapers and other periodicals, at least since the days of 'greenbacks,' scarcity of paper rags and very high price of paper, for those combined circumstances have stopped the publication of several papers, and caused an increase in price, or a diminution in size, or both such increase and diminution in nearly or quite all the periodicals of the day. The promptness and liberality of the large number of subscribers and patrons of the NEWS have enabled it to venture the present expensive enlargement from 32 columns to 48, and it is hoped that so marked an addition to its columns will prove acceptable and beneficial to all, and afford advertisers, without detriment to readers, the advantages of its extensive circulation.

Readers will now have some 32 columns of reading matter in each number, consisting of sermons by the First Presidency and Twelve, Editorials upon a variety of subjects, both local and general, full minutes of conferences, mass meetings, etc., in this city and elsewhere, the gist of news by telegraph, original and selected poetry, correspondence from Elders at home and abroad, interesting, useful and amusing selections in every department from the sources within our reach, and news in detail of the important doings of all the world, etc., etc.; to which add the weekly list of letters in the post office in this city, sundry reports in their season, and some 15 columns each week for advertisers to send a knowledge of themselves, their commodities, wishes, wants, etc., through so extended a circulation, and it will at once be perceived that the NEWS is a paper possessed of unusual interest and facilities; of the benefits of which the public are invited to avail themselves, bearing in mind that the more liberally the NEWS is sustained, as in the present instance, the more it will be able to aid in promoting the best interests of all.

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Next Monday this august body will commence their 14th annual session. Upon the business that will probably call for their attention, we have a few remarks to make.

Among the numerous and important matters of legislation, we trust that that which pertains to fences and stray cattle will not be forgotten. To this subject we have previously called the attention of the law-making department, and hope they have not overlooked our suggestions. We consider it of especial interest to the citizens of Utah to protect from the ravages of loose, rambling and uncared for cattle, the grain, fodder and roots raised by the laboring portion of our community. Heretofore we have had laws passed in regard to fences, their height, and the number of poles and posts that should constitute a legal fence. All such enactments have proven inoperative and futile, for reasons which we assigned in No. 51 of the last volume of the NEWS. We are now fully persuaded that nothing will obviate the difficulties and stop the general murmur and complaints so well as the passage of an act which will make every man responsible in dollars and cents for all damages done by their stock.

The law regulating the impounding of cattle, is exceedingly vague and should be amended, or else repealed and a new and better one passed. As the law now reads the Territorial Road Commissioner of each county is authorized to locate an estray pound at or near the centre of each precinct; and Sec. 2 of the same act provides that the people of each precinct may elect a suitable person to be the keeper of such pound, and Sec. 8 requires the said pound keeper to make a semi-annual report of his doings to the Clerk of the county court. Now why not give the county courts the entire direction and control of this business?

Our school laws ought to receive the early consideration of the Assembly. At present those portions of law absolutely necessary to be understood by the county superintendents are scattered through almost all the little volumes of law we have, and hence it is very difficult for those gentlemen to learn their specific duties without communicating with the Territorial Superintendent several times by letter. They are not supposed to be learned in the law, and as their duties are performed for the benefit of the whole people, whatever can be done by the people's representatives in a legislative capacity to facilitate the education of the rising generation should not be neglected.

The Territorial, County and Precinct officers are strongly in favor of the repeal of the *Fee bill*, and of the passage of one better adapted to the times. This subject will doubtless be considered by the legislature.

The financial condition of the Territory, we believe, is good, much better than that of the counties, but the precise status we cannot give until the publication of the Governor's message. The increase of taxable property in this county during the past year has been immense, and must have added greatly to the Territorial and County revenue. New and valuable buildings have sprung up like mushrooms; large stocks of merchandise have been brought into this city, and portions of them thence distributed among the small traders in the counties north and south. An assessment on these goods will help those counties where such trading is being carried on.

EXCLUSIVENESS—DISCOURTESY—BIGOTRY.

The words which form our caption are nearly always used in a relative and comparative sense. They are often em-

ployed without a knowledge of their abstract meaning. People usually speak of exclusiveness when referring to certain circles of society and the rigidity with which those who move in one circle are excluded from a higher one; of discourtesy, when the actions of an individual or individuals do not reach a certain estimate of courtesy which the speaker may have formed; of bigotry, when persons hold firmly and tenaciously to views they have adopted, and refuse to be swayed by the arguments of those who may differ from them in opinion.

With us, as a people, there is no gradation of circles, and in this respect, as in many others, we offer a marked contrast to every other community with which, individually, we have any acquaintance. The very spirit of our religion, embodying, as it does, more of that breadth of our constitutional freedom than is practically adopted elsewhere, is against it. Our element of aristocracy, if the term may be used, is worth not wealth. The poor man meets his rich brother as a man and a brother, not as his inferior "help" or poor workman, unworthy to eat at the same table or mingle in the same society. The question asked is not, What is he worth? but, Is he worthy? And, if answered satisfactorily, his poverty does not brand him as an inferior being, unfit to be introduced to or associate with the members of a particular circle. As a people we are freer from exclusiveness than any other among civilized nations, of which we have any knowledge.

If by any process of reasoning the term might be applied to us, it is with regard to the carefulness with which we guard our families from the association of those who would contaminate and destroy them. This is not exclusiveness; it is precaution. We are looked at by the world with curious eyes. Colored spectacles, metaphorically speaking, are invariably donned when such eyes are turned upon us. We can bear falsehood, vituperation and slander, for we are well used to them; our characters may be maligned, our motives misconstrued, and our domestic relations be made the theme of foul-mouthed and corrupt babblers, without calling forth a reply, but we object to those who do so invading the sanctity of our homes, associating with our families, or mingling in our social re-unions: we have very grave objections to it.

We send missionaries abroad to the nations to invite mankind to obey the truth. But the invitation is extended to those only who love the truth and desire to practice righteousness. We invite the strangers who visit our places of religious worship here to repent and be baptized and learn to serve God that they may obtain salvation; but we do not invite them all to associate with us in our homes and by our firesides. In fact, we would wish to see the limited extent to which the practice is carried materially lessened. We do not brand all those who may sojourn in our midst, or as travelers are passing through our settlements, who are not of our faith, as wicked and corrupt. Very far from it. But there are many such; and nearly all come among us with erroneous views and a false estimate of our characters. We only practice caution; and if a little more of that exclusiveness, which marks the higher circles of society in the world, were exercised by us as a whole, the result would be a benefit, not an injury to the community.

Passing out into the great world, men cannot obtain access to the homes of respectable families, in places where they are unknown, unless they bear recommendations from known persons of a like standing who would themselves be received in the same circle. But wealth and position will secure such entree, unless in the case of individuals known to be guilty of great crimes; and,

even then, money, like charity, will cover a multitude of sins. Wealth, position and family are the great standards of excellence in the world.

Now, we view such matters in a somewhat peculiar light. Virtue, worth and the practice of true principles are with us the claims to excellence; not money, rank or notoriety. Hence, we wish to know that persons are in possession of these claims to our friendship and the free extension of our courtesies, before they are tendered. These are rarer to be found than wealth and position; and, while laying no claim to extreme perfection ourselves, we wish to see in others a disposition to do right and act honorably before we open the barriers of our common circle and extend the privileges of association therewith to them. This is the beginning and end of what is sometimes termed "Mormon exclusiveness."

This leads to what some some call discourtesy. Gentlemen come among us to trade or extend their commercial relationship. They find our business men genial and courteous. Their trading, buying, selling and exchanging are marked by gentlemanly demeanor. But there is a laxity of the amenities of courtesy, generally, through these western regions, that would not be permitted in older and more densely populated localities. This is the natural result of a combination of circumstances; but it has a downward tendency. Our object and mission are to elevate mankind,—to raise them to a more elevated condition, mentally, morally and socially. In pursuit of that we cannot descend, we must ascend. We cannot stoop to that which has a degrading tendency, to please the vitiated taste of friend or stranger, nor for any other motive. If men address themselves to ladies, with whom they are unacquainted, in the streets, or try to force familiarity and acquaintanceship, they must learn that such things are reprobated in good society throughout the civilized world, and cannot be tolerated here. The course taken by many who visit our cities and settlements has its influence on the demeanor shown to all, until we learn to discriminate between the gentleman and the man who only assumes the character.

We hold to our faith with tenacity. Persecution and intolerance have driven us closer to it, and in the closeness of that connection we have learned to love it deeply, have proven its worth and know its truth. For it, thousands of us have left home and kindred, and left asunder the ties which bound us to our early homes and youthful associations. Many of us have been mobbed, plundered and mercilessly treated, for the religion we profess. When the clouds of trouble gathered blackest around us, and the storms of persecution burst upon us in their fiercest fury, we clung to it, for the Voice of Heaven had revealed its truth to us, and the consummation was beyond the hatred and vindictiveness of man. Our integrity to our faith, our attachment and love for the truth, may be termed bigotry; so be it. We know, in part, their worth, and live to appreciate them more, and will cling to them as the storm-tossed mariner to his sheet-anchor, never ceasing our efforts to spread the truth and bless mankind.

HOME MAILS.—It is sad to have to revert so often to our home mails, but it cannot be helped until sundry evils in diverse localities are remedied. Much of the mailing of mail matter reminds us of the anecdote of an old lady in South Carolina. She lived at a distributing office, and happened to be left in charge one day, but could not read. In her dilemma she emptied the sacks, as she had seen others do, and began to sort out the parcels by guessing at the quantity to be forwarded to each place.