

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED DAILY, SATURDAYS, AT 12 O'CLOCK NOON.

## THE DESERET NEWS CO.

CHAS. W. FENSTER, EDITOR.

Saturday, — March 28, 1891.

## NOTICE.

The Statute Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will commence at 10 o'clock, on Saturday morning, April 6th, 1891, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City.

All Officers and Members of the Church are cordially invited to be present at the meetings.

WILFRED WOODHOUSE,

GEORGE G. CANNON,

JOSEPH F. SMITH.

First Presidency.

Special—It has been deemed advisable to give notice to Conference an opportunity to enjoy a general feast in the large Tabernacle on Friday night, April 5th, when they may have the audience and choir (200 strong) in their recent concert selections. Presidents and Bishops would advise by answering this in their meetings next Sunday, so that visitors may arrive here in good time.

The proceeds will be devoted to improving the church, great organ, and surroundings. Circulars will be sent with particulars.

DANIEL H. WELLS.

ON SUNDAY, March 29, at 12 o'clock p. m., the funeral services over the mortal remains of Counselor Daniel H. Wells will be held at the Tabernacle in this city. A brief sketch of the life of this valiant soldier of Christ and faithful Latter-day Saint has already been made in these columns, but we are now able to give a more detailed epitome of his career. Only a few of the principal incidents can be presented, for a complete account would fill many columns, and no newspaper article could do anything like justice to the subject.

Daniel Hammer Wells was the son of Daniel and Catherine Chapin Wells and was born at Franklin, Oregon County, New York, October 27, 1814. His father died in the war of 1812, and he was a dependent of the celebrated Thomas Wells, the fourth Governor of Connecticut, who was several times elected alternately as Governor and Lieutenant Governor of that colony.

Brother Wells' mother was the daughter of David Chapin, a revolutionary soldier and connected with one of the oldest and most distinguished New England families. He served under the immediate command of Washington during the greater part of the War of Independence.

In 1820, when he was but 12 years of age, Brother Wells lost his father, and six years later, with his mother and sister, he moved to Ohio and the following spring to Illinois. He took up residence at Commerce, then a small village, but it was afterwards noted as the "Mormon" city of Nauvoo. Here he was elected constable, then justice of the peace, and was an officer in the first militia organization of the district. He was a Whig in politics and figured prominently in the political conventions of the period. He was an ardent champion of universal literacy and a foe to oppression in every form. He was highly esteemed by people of all parties and creeds, and frequently acted as arbitrator in difficulties between neighbors and families. Brother Wells' name, in that early day, was one of strict integrity, with a high sense of justice and impartiality.

In 1830, when he was 20 years old, he left the State of Ohio from Missouri, settled at Commerce, he aided in securing for them a cordial welcome. He owned, among other pieces of property, eighty acres of land on the hill. This he sold to town, then the part of the city, and of the temple which was built on land that had belonged to him.

On making the acquaintance of the Prophet Joseph Smith, he became strongly attached to him, though then unconnected with the Church. When the Church was organized by the 12th Article of Confession in the City of Nauvoo, he was elected as Almoner and member of the City Council, also a Deacon of the University and a Brigadier-General in the Nauvoo Legion. He was prominent in the city affairs and supported every public measure for the progress and welfare of the citizens. When the opposition to the "Mormons" reached its height, General Wells remained on the side of the assailed people and would not join in any movement for their injury. The number of the Prophet and Patriarch Joseph and Hyrum, caused his deepest indignation, and he strongly protested against the conduct of the Government of the State for the sake of the Legion, which was made under the protection of the people of Nauvoo, intent only to bring the slaughter of their leaders.

But it was not until the exodus of the body of the Church, and the people who remained in the city were to their lives extremely, being at

hooked by their enemies in violation of a solemn compact, that this stirring chapter of the sacred cause in it is to be told with the latter-day Saints. He joined the Church and gave it his full faith and support. He was baptised August 8, 1842.

Six weeks later the battle of Nauvoo occurred, General Wells was probably the leading spirit in this gallant defense of the city. Col. Johnson was taken sick and Lieut. Col. Cutler assumed the command. Brother Wells was his aide, and on his white charger was a prominent target for the enemy's bullets. His horse also was fired upon repeatedly. He escaped uninjured, and during the three days' siege was a leader of strength in the men who were fighting home and family.

When the city was taken, being one of the last to fall, and the rebels were crossing the river into Iowa, he went out with his compatriots to the Governor of that state, and a spokesman of Illinois respect for its obligations. One of the terms of the treaty between the State and the Indians was that the former should cross the Iowa unharmed, and have their arms returned to them.

Brother Wells rode right in the advance army to reach the Santa Fe body of the called "Mormons," that hoard might be immediately sent back for the remnant that had been exiled from Nauvoo. After settling up his affairs in Illinois, he started for the West and came to Utah in 1848, acting as ad-secular to President Brigham Young on the removal of the pioneers.

When Salt Lake City was laid out Brother Wells saw a lot in the Eighth Ward. But President Young took up our presence, so moved to the East side of the Eagle Gate, and subsequently to the land east of the Deseret News office, where he occupied the small adobe house still standing there, which was one of his children's homes, and in one of which State Engineer E. H. Wells now resides the engineer's family.

Brother Wells took up a five part in the organization of the provisional State of Oregon, and was elected to the first Legislative Council and appointed as State Attorney, and was also elected State General of the Nauvoo Legion, the state militia, by the General Assembly May 26, 1849. On the 27th of March 1852, he received the rank of Lieutenant General of the Legion, and was commissioned to that office by Governor Brigham Young, March 5, 1855. When the passage of the territorial militia law providing for the election of general officers, he was reelected Lieutenant General April 8, 1857. In the Indian troubles that arose in Utah County and afterwards in Sanpete County, General Wells took the field in person, routing the savages at Provo, Battle Creek and Payson, and saving the Campsite and Sevier settlements from the Indians in starting the gas wells in this city, while it largely increased and which have been successful to the present day.

At the general election on August 1st, 1852, when a Delegate to Congress was to be elected, B. N. Barnes had been nominated as the "Liberal" candidate, in opposition to H. H. Moore, General Maxwell's attempt to be elected except of the P. T. P. F. President, the polling place for which was at the City Hall. Here a large number of armed deputy marshals with a squad of "Liberals" interfered with the police in their efforts to preserve the peace, some arrests being made by the police, they were in turn arrested by deputy marshals, and conflict ran high.

Major Wells was on the spot and endeavored to keep down the tumult. He was seized upon by the mob, brutally struck and his coat nearly torn from his back. The major came to his rescue, the mob was forced back, and the Major appeared on the balcony, and uttered of "those hellish shams" which interrupted the riot act and commanded the riot act and commanded his family the possessors of unarmored yet modest homes.

Brother Wells had seven wives, six of whom survived him, by whom he had thirty-six children, of whom twenty-four were sons and eleven daughters, are living, and he leaves twenty-five living grandchildren.

His faith in God and in the system called "Mormonism" was unshaken, and his integrity to the principles of the Gospel was unwavering. Dedicated to the due administration of justice, he maintained the dignity of his office and prevented the personal conflict destroyed by those who provoked the disturbance, to be used for political purposes.

When on March 11, 1875, President Young was sent to the Territory for contempt of court in not complying with an arrest order by Judge McLean, President Wells accompanied him and stayed with him until his release; his imprisonment, however, lasted but one day. Judge McLean lost his official head for the act of tyranny fully.

In 1879 Brother Wells again saw the trial of President Young, this time impeaching himself for contempt of court in refusing to disclose the secret and sacred rites of the Endowment House. As a witness in the Miles Jaynes case on May 2nd, he was interrogated by the Presenting Attorney in relation to clothing worn in those ceremonies. He declined to answer. He was remanded to the custody of the Marshal, and next day, was cited to appear and question again, for reprieve.

I declined to answer that question yesterday, and do so today, because I am under moral and sacred obligation to not answer, and if it is otherwise, my conscience forces me to bring a friend or brother, my country my God or my religion?"

This was a clear exhibition of the character of the man. Not for nothing would he avertise from that position. He was sentenced to a fine of a hundred dollars and imprisonment for two days. He paid the penalty and on May 6th he was exonerated from the Contempt by a procession, hastily thoughly organized, consisting of about 10,000 people with banners,

banners, flags and signs of rejoicing, one of the most remarkable gatherings and demonstrations of respect ever witnessed in this country. An immense but peaceful meeting was subsequently held in the Tabernacle, where eloquent speeches were made.

In December 1884, Counselor Wells crossed the ocean again and presided over the European Mission, visiting the countries throughout the British Isles and also in Scandinavia, Germany and Switzerland. His health was failing but he labored energetically until his release in January 1885, when he returned to the United States, having been released in July of that year, and was again welcomed by family and friends.

When the Salt Temple was completed and dedicated he was appointed May 3rd, 1889, to take charge of President Wells' health. He was only an invalid, though weighing down his bed, but he was a man of great energy.

The salvation of the dead was the chief attraction to him in the doctrine he espoused by his teacher Joseph Smith the Prophet, and left to him his investigation and acceptance of the gospel. He officiated in the Temple and performed ordinances on himself to the Twelve until with the illness which culminated in his death. He came to this city on the 15th of March, and received every attention that loving hearts and hands could bestow. He had suffered for many years with a painful physical ailment, but his heroic nature and strong will enabled him to surmount the difficulties he faced. His eloquence impressed and at 1 o'clock March 28th, he peacefully departed, being without pain and conscious to the last.

Brother Wells would have been a prominent character in any community. Standing six feet in height, with prominent features and organs of perception, his appearance was striking. Although his manner was unassuming, apparently seen in his demeanor, he was really one of the kindest of men, full of sympathy and affection, well qualified to make him a popular figure. He had suffered for many years with a painful physical ailment, but his heroic nature and strong will enabled him to surmount the difficulties he faced. His eloquence impressed and at 1 o'clock March 28th, he peacefully departed, being without pain and conscious to the last.

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There is something more than the question of colonial rights in issue between the Newfoundland people and the Imperial government of England. This is the fact that France is also involved, and France and England, under existing circumstances, are particularly situated. Outside of the question that they are ancient enemies, there is the required alliance of Russia and France, coming now to complete fruition.

Lord Stanley wants to coerce the Newfoundlanders into a certain line of legislation, so as to facilitate Newfoundland's entry into the British Commonwealth, and this is obviously refused to be done by the Conservative Ministry.

Well, we will be pleased to note the parts of England, throughout the dominion of Canada, to give 100,000,000. The people of England recognize the rights of colonial governments, and that is what puts Halifax in his present predicament situation.

Newfoundland is not a part of the Dominion of Canada. It is an independent British colony. It refused to enter the Canadian Confederation, and now demands its independence. France, too, has been recognized by the Newfoundlanders, from time immemorial, and the present trouble has arisen from an alleged violation of these rights. The dispute arises in the first place between Newfoundland and France, but it is a matter of course, the former country is not recognized by France, except as a British possession. France will look to England entirely for a settlement of this matter.

There is another particular which helps to complicate the situation. A strong feeling for annexation with the United States exists among the people of Newfoundland, and should they unanimously so express themselves, it would lead to a definite break between free countries.

Newfoundland is an island, triangular in form, is 370 miles in length, 200 in breadth and 1000 miles in circumference.

The area is 42,000 square miles, and its population in 1871 was 160,000, but its recent increase is enormous, demands for annexation is due to the fact that the U. S. is ripe to make a demand for annexation in the United States. England cannot afford to quarrel with France at any price, and perhaps the Frenchmen know this.

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## IT IS WELL KNOWN TO OUR REGULAR CUSTOMERS

That when this institution advertises a **X-SPECIAL-SALE**,  
IT MEANS JUST WHAT IT SAYS!!!  
We want the general public to understand this also, that the very best goods the industry has to offer during the ENTIRE WEEK commencing

MARCH 23rd  
AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

The Ladies will be glad to supersede the heavy garments of Winter for

## CHEMISES.

## Night Dresses

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