

From the Washington Union.

MORMON MATRIMONY.

We believe the public are already apprized of the fact that the disciples of Mormonism have established an organ in this city. The second issue of this remarkable journal is before us; and it makes some strange revelations concerning Mormon matrimony, we propose to submit to our readers a few extracts from the "Seer."

The "Seer" is under the editorial supervision of, rather the inspiration, of Elder Orson Pratt. It appears monthly, and presents a by authority version of Mormon doctrines. The number before us settles the question of Mormon polygamy. The manner in which this libidinous and beastly practice is described and defended cannot fail to shock and disgust the reader.

"From the foregoing quotations and remarks, it will be seen that the Latter-Day Saints have stricter notions of virtue, and consider themselves under greater obligations to refrain, not only from unvirtuous acts, but from unvirtuous thoughts, than any other people under heaven. But do the Saints actually demonstrate by their practices that they believe what the Lord has taught them upon these subjects? Do they practise virtue as well as deliver the precepts thereof? We answer, let the practices of the thirty thousand Saints in Utah speak; let strangers who have travelled through our flourishing Territory declare; let the records of the courts of justice bear witness; let the injured females, if there be any, whose character and reputation have been destroyed by the vile seducer publish their wrong; let illegitimate children, if Utah affords them, come forth as a public monument of our disgrace. If a hoarse of ill-fame can be found throughout the length and breadth of our Territory, then let the Saints hide their faces in shame, and the sons and daughters of Utah blush before the Heaven; if an adulterer or seducer of female virtue can be found in that land, then let the elders be clad in sackcloth and the Saints put on the garments of mourning, and weep before the Lord, day and night, until the evil be taken from their midst.

"But have not some of the Saints in Utah more wives than one? Yes; and they take care of them too; and teach them and their children the great principles of virtue and holiness by example as well as by precept. But is it not sinful for a man to have more than one wife living at the same time? If it is, the Bible has not told us of it. But is it not contrary to the Christian religion? If it is the Christian religion has not revealed it as an evil. But do you not really think that it is contrary to the will of God for a man, in these days, to take a plurality of wives? Yes, unless God shall give them to him by a revelation through a holy prophet. Is it not contrary to the constitution and laws of the United States for the citizens of Utah to practice the plurality of wives? No; neither the constitution nor the laws of the United States have said anything on the subject of marriage or domestic relations. But is it not contrary to the laws of the Territory? No; the legislature of that Territory do not feel disposed to deprive her citizens of any blessings or privileges enjoyed, under the sanction of the Almighty, by holy prophets and patriarchs of old.

"We annex a minute description of the courtship and matrimonial ceremony of a gentleman when about to take upon himself the yoke of an additional spouse: "No man in Utah, who already has a wife, and who may desire to obtain another, has any right to make any propositions of marriage to a lady until he has consulted the president over the whole church, and through him obtains a revelation from God as to whether it would be pleasing in His sight. If he is forbidden by revelation that ends the matter; if by revelation the privilege is granted, he still has no right to consult the feelings of the young lady until he has obtained an approbation of her parents; provided they are living in Utah; if their consent cannot be obtained, this also ends the matter. But if the parents or guardians freely give their consent, he may make propositions of marriage to the young lady. If she refuse these propositions, this also ends the matter; but if she accept, a day is generally set apart by the parties for the marriage ceremony to be celebrated. It is necessary to state before any man takes the least step towards getting a wife, it is his duty to consult the feelings of the wife which he already has, and obtain her consent, as recorded in the 24th paragraph of the revelation, published in the first number of "The Seer."

"When the day set apart for the solemnization of the marriage ceremony has arrived, the bridegroom and his wife, and also the bride, together with their relatives, and such other guests as may be invited, assemble at the place which they have appointed. The scribe then proceeds to take the names, ages, native towns, counties, States, and countries of the parties to be married, which he carefully enters on record. The president, who is the prophet, seer, and revelator over the whole church throughout the world, and who alone holds the keys of authority in this solemn ordinance, (as recorded in the 2d and 5th paragraphs of the revelation on marriage,) calls upon the bridegroom and his wife, and the bride to arise, which they do, fronting the president. The wife stands on the left hand of her husband, while the bride stands on her left. The president then puts this question to the wife: "Are you willing to give this woman to your husband to be his lawful and wedded wife for time and for all eternity? If you are, you will manifest it by placing her right hand within the right hand of your husband." The right hands of the bridegroom and bride being thus joined, the wife takes her husband by the left arm, as if in the attitude of walking. The president then proceeds to ask the following question of the man: "Do you, brother, (calling him by name,) by the right hand to receive her unto yourself to be your lawful and wedded wife, and you to be her lawful and wedded husband for time and for all eternity, with a covenant and promise on your part, that you will fulfil all the laws, rites, and ordinances, pertaining to this holy matrimony, in the new and everlasting covenant, doing this in the presence of God, angels, and these witnesses, of your own free will and choice? The bride answers, yes. The president then says: "In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the authority of the holy priesthood, I pronounce you legally and lawfully husband and wife for time and for all eternity; and I seal upon you the blessings of the holy resurrection, with power to come forth in the morning of the first resurrection, clothed with glory, immortality, and eternal lives; and I seal upon you the blessings of thrones, and dominions, and principalities, and powers, and exaltations, together with the blessings of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and say unto you be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth that you may have joy and rejoicing in you prosperity in the day of the Lord Jesus. All these blessings, together with all other blessings pertaining to the new and everlasting covenant, I seal upon your head through your faithfulness unto the end, by the authority of the holy priesthood, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen." The scribe then enters on the general record the date and place of the marriage, together with the names of two or three witnesses who were present.

balance were appropriately referred. Mr. Carter, by leave, reported, from the Committee on Patents, a bill to provide for the publication of a proper Patent Office digest, &c., and authorizing the employment of additional officers in the Patent Office bureau to that end, which passed.

CONGRESSIONAL.

From the Washington Union.

Thursday, January 20, 1853.

SENATE.—A message was received from the President, informing Congress of the refusal of the Indians remaining in Florida to migrate to the country assigned to them west of the Mississippi.

The Chair laid before the Senate the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the state of the finances; also, a report of the Secretary of the Interior in relation to the expenditures in running the boundary lines between the United States and Mexico.

The credentials of the Hon. Benjamin Fitzpatrick, appointed by the governor of Alabama to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. W. R. King, were presented; and he was qualified, and took his seat.

The Senate proceeded to consider the Pacific railroad bill; and after a long debate, it was postponed until to-morrow; and the Senate went into executive session, shortly after which they adjourned.

House.—The morning hour was devoted to the further consideration of the New York mint bill.—Mr. Tucker addressing the House against it, and Messrs. Briggs and Seymour, of New York, in its favor. At the expiration of the morning hour, the House passed to the consideration of business on the Speaker's table; and, while so engaged, various executive and executive-department communications were laid before the House, and disposed of; among these was the Secretary of the Treasury's annual commerce and navigation report, and a message from the President in answer to a call of the House relative to the proceedings of the Spanish government in the matter of the capture of the brig Georgiana and the barque Susan Loud. The bill to prohibit public executions in the District of Columbia, and some others, were also passed during the day's proceedings.

Friday, January 21, 1853.

SENATE.—The resolutions respecting the right of way across the isthmus of Tehuantepec were taken up, and made the order of the day for Tuesday, February 1st.

Several private bills were considered and passed; when the Senate went into executive session, and, at a quarter before five, adjourned until Monday.

House.—This being private bill day, the House again took up the bill for the relief of David Myerle, upon which speeches were delivered by Mr. Bocock for and Mr. Breckenridge against it. It was then duly passed. The motion to reconsider the vote by which the House had on the day before ordered the President's message relative to the affair with Spain concerning the capture of the barque Georgiana and brig Susan Loud to be printed, made by Mr. Polk, was next called up; and after debate, in which Messrs. Polk, Stanly, Taylor, and Davy participated, Mr. Polk withdrew his motion to reconsider, and the said message and accompanying documents were laid on the table and ordered to be printed. On motion of Mr. Edgerton, the House next concurred in the amendment of the Senate to the bill for the relief of Charles Matthews, Charles Wood, and James Hall; after which they adjourned until Monday next.

Monday, January 24, 1853.

SENATE.—A message was received from the President in relation to the award of Louis Napoleon in the case of the brig General Armstrong; also transmitting correspondence in relation to the claims of Great Britain to the Mesquite coast, or any portion of Honduras.

The bill to provide for a reorganization of the navy was taken up and made the special order for Wednesday February 2d.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill to repeal an act concerning tonnage duties on Spanish vessels. Mr. Mallory addressed the Senate thereon, but without concluding gave way to a motion to proceed to the consideration of executive business. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

House.—The House devoted its session for the most part to the consideration of private bills; some of which—for the relief of Abigail Stratford, Ann C. Belknap, Nathaniel Weston, Frances B. Gardiner, and John W. Gwinney—were passed, and the

balance were appropriately referred. Mr. Carter, by leave, reported, from the Committee on Patents, a bill to provide for the publication of a proper Patent Office digest, &c., and authorizing the employment of additional officers in the Patent Office bureau to that end, which passed.

THE REPUBLICAN.

CLEARFIELD Pa., Feb. 4, 1853.

JUVENILE CONCERT.

The class of pupils who have been learning to sing under the instruction of Mrs. Catlin, will give a public concert on Friday evening, Feb. 4th, at the Town Hall. Admittance, 12 1/2 cents. Doors open at half-past 6. Tickets can be had by calling on Mrs. Catlin.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Hamlin, of the Senate, and Messrs. Arnold, Foster, and Waterbury of the House for Legislative documents.

THE NEW TAX BILL.

We are sure we never before witnessed as much anxiety on the part of the people to see and examine any measure proposed in our State Legislature, as has been manifested on the subject of the new Tax Bill presented by the Commissioners appointed by Gov. BLOOMER, under the resolution of last session. "Have you a copy of the bill?"—"Have you seen it?"—"What are its provisions?"—are questions met on every hand, though never answered with satisfaction. The bill itself, so far as we are aware, has not yet made its appearance outside of Harrisburg; and to rely upon the only synopsis of the law that we have seen, as a fair digest of its material provisions, would certainly create the impression that it will fall very far short of meeting the approbation of the people.

Would it not be wise policy on the part of the Legislature, when they are about to pass laws of such magnitude as this, to print and distribute large numbers of copies to the tax-payers in all parts of the State? It would be forming a sort of "Committee of the Whole" State, for revision and amendment, and if this was done in the present case, we are sure that the tendency would be to render perfect whatever might be found to be imperfect in the proposed law—for some people have a notion that there are just as wise heads out of the Legislature as there are in it—and by this means our law-makers would receive the benefit of the combined wisdom of the State.

But this anxious inquiry on the part of the people is no bad omen. Every person who has paid the least attention to our present system of taxation, cannot have failed to have discovered glaring inconsistencies and inequalities in it. The people—both rich and poor—are alike anxious to redeem our State from her present indebted condition; and that she may be so redeemed, they will submit to almost any amount of taxation, provided this burthen is visited upon all alike. Concerning the measure proposed by the Commission, we have heard as many different versions of it almost as it has sections—and they are not a few; but notwithstanding this contrariety of opinion, judging from the high character of the gentlemen composing the Commission, we have the utmost confidence that it is a well digested law, and subject to but few of the objections attributed to it. However, if the Legislature would send out a few copies of it among their constituents, this part of the difficulty would be settled at once, and we hope they may do so.

P. S.—Since the foregoing was in type we have received a copy of the bill in question, together with all the others reported by the Commission, and for which we are indebted to the politeness of our member, Hon. A. S. Arnold.

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

The downward train of cars run off the track, near Christians, Lancaster county, on Sunday morning last, and seriously injured several of the passengers, and among the number Judge WRIGHT, of this place, who, though badly bruised, was doing well at last accounts.

From further particulars, we learn that there was but one car (the hindmost) thrown off the track, containing only eight passengers, and after running thus about 150 yards, breaking the stove and scattering the fire all through the car, broke the coupling and was thrown down a bank a distance of about 16 feet. The car was crushed to pieces. All the passengers were more or less injured, and two of them so seriously as to endanger their lives.

A VICTIM.—Maj. BRADY, of the Brookville Jeffersonian, we are glad to learn, has returned to his post. Had his absence been protracted another week the editor pro tem. would surely have been added to the number of the victims of that Green Eyed Monster. Hark to his doleful sigh:

"Is it not singular that the female who upon the shaded balcony or in the darkened hall admits that you are dearer to her than aught else on earth, or who by gas light falls unresisting into your arms with excess of passion, will in the glare of day coldly repel your fondest advances and laugh your protestations of love to scorn? Do not therefore, avow an affection for a lady before eight o'clock in the evening would you avoid a rejection. After that hour a refusal is almost beyond the bounds of human probability.

Booms in the Susquehanna. In the State Senate on Monday the 2d ultimo, on motion of Mr. Quiggle, Senate bill No. 75, to authorize George Snaith to erect and maintain a boom in the West Branch of the Susquehanna, was taken up in Committee of the Whole, (Mr. Sanderson in the Chair,) when the following discussion ensued:

Mr. Hamlin of McKean, called for some explanation of the bill.

Mr. Quiggle explained, that the river being a public highway, no person had a right to make an improvement of the kind contemplated without authority of law.—That this improvement was one very much needed by the applicant to secure his property; that the river at this place was 400 feet wide; that the boom was not to be more than 150 feet; and that it would not obstruct the navigation of the river, and would be a very useful improvement.

Mr. Myers inquired whether it would not obstruct the channel of the river?

Mr. Quiggle replied that he thought not.

Mr. Hamlin, of McKean, opposed the bill at some length. He had very serious objections to granting privileges of this kind. It was altogether a private enterprise—the river was a public highway, and ought not to be thus obstructed. Obstructions of this kind were a nuisance, and were the cause of much serious complaint from the lumbermen.

Mr. Quiggle apprehended he had a much larger constituency in the lumber business than the Senator from McKean, (Mr. H.) He referred to the immense lumber business done in his district—to the large revenue afforded to the treasury from this business, and said he would be the last man to put any obstruction in the way of the lumbermen. This would be no obstruction. It was a little boom—the river at this point was very rapid—and it was impossible to secure logs without this protection. He repeated, he would be the last man to place any obstructions in the way of the lumbermen, or interfere with their rights. They were the men who sustained and built up that part of the country.—He hoped the right asked would be granted.

Mr. Hamlin repeated his opposition to the passage of the bill. It was a private enterprise, and no Senator should give his vote for one of the kind without being fully convinced of its propriety. It was a question between the rights of individuals and the public, and they ought to have an expression of the wishes of the people concerned before the privilege is granted.

Mr. Kunkle did not know whether he could add any thing to what had been said on the subject. He was opposed to the bill. Would like to know, with the Senator from Clarion (Mr. Myers), whether it did not interfere with the channel of the river? He referred to the many bridges, dams, and other obstructions already in the river, and the accidents they occasion to lumbermen, and remarked, that, although by law the river is a public highway, it is really no more a public highway than it is a gentleman's private lane.—If the State desire to part with her rights of this kind she could make money by it, but it would be ruinous to her prosperity. It was a novel proposition.

Mr. Quiggle replied, that the more they encouraged individual enterprise the more the State was benefited by the increase of business. He alluded to the general act authorizing the erection of mill dams, &c., on the public streams, provided they did not obstruct the navigation; and said that he was willing that a proviso should be attached to this bill—that the boom shall not obstruct the navigation of the river.

Mr. Buckalew, hoped the bill would not be voted down in committee.

Mr. Evans expressed a similar hope, and remarked that it should be remembered that all our public streams were filled with improvements. The Schuylkill, Lehigh, and other streams abounded with them. If the amendment providing that it shall be no obstruction to the navigation of the river be appended, he thought there should be no objection to the bill.

In the Senate, Wednesday, January 20, Mr. Quiggle, presented a remonstrance from 200 citizens of Clinton county, against the passage of a law to prohibit the floating of logs on the West Branch of the Susquehanna river or any of its tributaries.

DISCONTENT IN EUROPE.—An American gentleman, writing to the Boston Journal from Paris, confirms what every intelligent traveller in Europe must have observed. He says: "In Austria despotism is doing its work; by pushing matters too far she is preparing trouble for herself in the future, and that future not a very remote one. I affirm, as the result of personal knowledge, that there is not a province of Austria that is not discontented.—Italy is but one mass of conspiracies, and the beheading of a dozen conspirators but calls into existence ten times that number. Hungary is quiet, but it is only the quiet of a temporary exhaustion, rendered more necessary by the hordes of the Czar still hovering on her borders. The Slavic provinces, the supporters of Austria in her struggle with Hungary, are murmuring; Bohemia is discontented, and the Tyrolese, that noble people, whose patriotism and whose courage have become proverbial, who, in 1848, received with outstretched arms the emperor flying from his capital, are now ready to join any movement which will present a prospect of freeing them from the enormous burdens under which they are groaning.

MR. KING'S HEALTH.

We understand that a letter has been received in this city from one of the party which accompany Colonel King, written at Key West, and dated the 22d, which states that he had a very pleasant passage, and that his health was much improved.

WASHINGTON TONTO.

The Japanese Army consists of 300,000 infantry and 50,000 cavalry.

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The Japanese Army consists of 300,000 infantry and 50,000 cavalry.

COBBESPONDENCE. The following correspondence has been handed to us with a request that we would give it a place in our paper.

Morrisdale, Jan. 13, 1853.

WM. F. PACKER, Esq., Williamsport. Dear Sir:—At a meeting of the citizens of Morris township, convened by public notice on the 1st instant, to resist the enactment of any law to stop the log-floating, the undersigned were appointed a committee of correspondence, to carry out the object of said meeting. In the performance of that duty they have the pleasure to send you the annexed resolution, which was passed unanimously, and at the same time to express unanimously their personal acknowledgments of your very valuable services. Remaining with profound respect, Your obedient servants,

JAMES ALLPORT, S. C. THOMPSON.

Resolved, That the thanks of the inhabitants of this township are hereby tendered to the Hon. W. F. Packer of Lycoming county for his able exertions in defeating the bill last winter in the Senate.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 26, 1853.

Gentlemen:—Your favor of the 13th instant enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted by the citizens of Morris township, in Clearfield county, tending to me the thanks of the inhabitants of that township for the part which I took in the Senate at its last session, in defeating the bill to prohibit the floating of logs in the Moshannon, and other tributaries of the Susquehanna, reached me at this place a few days since. The deep interest which very many of my constituents had in the question, made it my duty to oppose the bill to which you refer with spirit and energy. This I did with the more readiness and zeal, as the proposed prohibition met with my own unqualified disapprobation. I thought the bill which passed the House of Representatives wrong in every point. Wrong, if no expenditures had been made in the erection of booms in the river, for the accommodation of the floating business; but especially so, in view of the large investments of capital which had been made at Williamsport, Lock-Haven and elsewhere in the construction of booms, the erection of steam-saw mills &c., dependent entirely on that business, as then fully recognized and established by law. The Senate was of the same opinion, and the bill was defeated by a signal vote. Nor can I believe that the bill now before the Legislature will meet with any better success.

Tendering to the citizens of Morris tp., my sincere acknowledgments for the kind notice which it has pleased them to take of my humble efforts in the Senate; and to you gentlemen, my profound regard, I remain, yours, faithfully,

WM. F. PACKER.

To Jas. Allport and S. C. Thompson.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

Kossuth coming to America.

New York, Jan. 30.—The Royal Mail Steamer Africa, with dates from Liverpool to the 17th inst., being five days later than those received by the Arctic, arrived at the dock in Jersey City, at 9 o'clock this evening.

The Arctic did not leave on the 15th inst., her day of sailing, she having been detained until the morning of the 17th, by order of the British Government.

The political news is of no importance. Kossuth is about to visit America in consequence of the election of General Pierce.

By the overland Mail we have reports that the Birmese War is at an end. From China accounts state that the insurrection in that country is rapidly gaining ground.

France remains quiet, and we have no news from there of any moment.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

Settlement of the difficulty between Bingham & Dock and the Pennsylvania R. R. Co.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 29.—The negotiations that have been for some weeks pending between the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and Messrs. Bingham and Dock, in reference to the passenger carriage on the Columbia Railroad, were brought to a successful termination to-day, and the settlement thus effected, of the hitherto existing difficulty, cannot fail to result advantageously, not only to the interests of Philadelphia, but the State at large. Under the contract entered into by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and Messrs. Bingham & Dock, the latter give up the control of all the passenger trains running in connection with those of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, over the Columbia Railroad to that company, Messrs. Bingham & Dock will, under the arrangement, act as local agents at Philadelphia.

DREADFUL MURDER.—ARREST OF THE SUPPOSED MURDERER.

Another dreadful murder occurred about 9 o'clock on Saturday evening, at the corner of Swanson street and Beck's Court, Southwark. From the evidence before Coroner Goldsmith, it appears that two men were seen about that time at that point in a scuffle, when one of them fell upon the pavement, and the other ran away. The man upon the pavement proved to be Mr. Christopher Soohan, aged 35 years, residing at No. 4 Swanson Court, who had received a dreadful stab in the thigh which severed the principal artery, causing his death in a few minutes. The remains of the deceased were immediately conveyed to his residence, where an inquest was held yesterday morning.

CORONER'S VERDICT.—That the death of the deceased was caused by hemorrhage from a wound inflicted by a sharp instrument, in the left thigh, proceeding upwards, and severing the femoral artery in the hands of some unknown person.